

What Is Claimed Is:

1 1. A peptide of eight to twenty amino acids in
2 length which comprises a hydrophilic analog of an alpha-
3 fetoprotein peptide having SEQ ID NO:6: EMTPVNPG.

1 2. The peptide of claim 1 wherein the peptide is
2 linear.

1 3. The peptide of claim 1 wherein the peptide is
2 cyclic.

1 4. The peptide of claim 1 wherein one or more of
2 the amino acids is a (D)-amino acid.

1 5. The peptide of claim 1 which comprises an amino
2 acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

3 SEQ ID NO:2: QMTPVNPGE
4 SEQ ID NO:3: QMTPVNPGE
5 SEQ ID NO:4: EMTOVNOG
6 SEQ ID NO:5: EMTOVNOGQ
7 SEQ ID NO:7: EMTPVNPGQ
8 SEQ ID NO:8: EMTOVNPG
9 SEQ ID NO:9: EMTOVNPGQ
10 SEQ ID NO:10: EMTPVNOG and
11 SEQ ID NO:11: EMTPVNOGQ,
12 or a peptidomimetic of said peptide.

1 6. The peptide of claim 1 labeled with a
2 detectable marker.

1 7. The peptide of claim 6 wherein the detectable
2 marker is a radiolabel.

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1 8. The peptide of claim 7 wherein the radiolabel
2 is a radiolabeled additional amino acid.

1 9. A dimeric peptide consisting of two peptides of
2 claim 1.

1 10. The dimeric peptide of claim 9 wherein the two
2 peptides are SEQ ID NO:4 and SEQ ID NO:5.

1 11. The dimeric peptide of claim 9, wherein the two
2 peptides are SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:10.

1 12. A multimeric peptide consisting of three or
2 more peptides of claim 1.

1 13. A composition comprising the peptide of claim 1
2 and a suitable carrier.

1 14. The composition of claim 13 wherein the
2 suitable carrier includes a stabilization excipient.

1 15. The composition of claim 14 wherein the
2 stabilization excipient is dodecyl maltoside or mannitol.

1 16. An antibody that specifically binds to the
2 peptide of claim 1.

1 17. A method of reducing estrogen-stimulated growth
2 of cells, the method comprising exposing cells to the
3 peptide of claim 1.

1 18. The method of claim 17 which further comprises
2 exposing the cells to tamoxifen before, during, or after
3 exposing the cells to the peptide.

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1 19. A method of treating or preventing cancer in a
2 subject which comprises administering to the subject an
3 amount of the peptide of claim 1' effective to treat or
4 prevent cancer in the subject.

1 20. The method of claim 19 wherein the cancer is
2 estrogen-dependent cancer.

1 21. The method of claim 20 wherein the estrogen-
2 dependent cancer is breast cancer.

1 22. The method of claim 19' which further comprises
2 administering a suitable amount of tamoxifen to the
3 subject before, during, or after administering the
4 peptide to the subject.

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